



MARINE SAFETY INFORMATION BULLETIN

BULLETIN NO: 07-01

Date: September 23, 2001

SUBJECT: Current Long Island Sound Maritime Security

Due to the recent terrorist attacks, all marine facility and/or vessel owners, operators and agents within the Long Island Sound maritime community should increase and maintain robust security measures into the extended future.

The Captain of the Port has not received any credible terrorist threats specifically aimed at the Long Island Sound maritime community. However, security of our national defense assets in our zone is a primary focus of our current efforts. Foreign-flag commercial vessels will only be allowed entry into the Captain of the Port Long Island Sound zone on a case-by-case basis and in the Port of New London there are additional vessel traffic restrictions. The Thames River, in the vicinity of the Naval Base, is closed to all vessels after dark. In addition, Naval Vessel Protection Zones are established within 500 yards of any U.S. naval vessel. This includes any vessel owned, operated, chartered, or leased by the U.S. Navy or under the operational control of the U.S. Navy. All vessels within 500 yards of a U.S. naval vessel shall operate at the minimum speed necessary to maintain a safe course and proceed as directed by the official patrol. Vessels requesting to pass within 100 yards of a U.S. naval vessel shall contact the official patrol on VHF-FM channel 16. All foreign commercial vessel traffic throughout the Captain of the Port Long Island Sound zone is restricted to daytime movement only.

Certain restrictions on commercial vessel traffic are currently in effect in the Port of New York. Contact Captain of the Port New York via Vessel Traffic Service New York on normal VHF channels.

Anyone who receives a terrorist threat or witnesses suspicious activity should notify Captain of the Port Long Island Sound immediately at (203) 468-4444. For public affairs matters contact Lieutenant Dickerson at (203) 468-4501. For details on traffic restrictions in the Captain of the Port Long Island Sound zone contact Group Long Island Sound at (203) 468-4401.

J. J. Coccia
Captain, U. S. Coast Guard
Captain of the Port
Long Island Sound